

TESTIMONY OF THE CONNECTICUT JUSTICE ALLIANCE

Education Committee



SB 1093: AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE POLICY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE CONCERNING EDUCATION.

IN FAVOR OF SB 1093

February 28, 2023

Dear chairs Senator McCrory , Representative Currey and members of the housing committee. My Name Is Sage Grady I am A Resident Of West Haven, Connecticut. I am also a Justice Advisor with the Connecticut Justice Alliance and I am testifying In support of S.B. No. 1093: **AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE POLICY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE CONCERNING EDUCATION.**

I want to state that I am a mother. I feel very disappointed that Connecticut chooses to expel and suspend CHILDREN. Children in these age groups are still learning things and I couldn't possibly imagine ever receiving a call from my daughter's school saying she is getting suspended or expelled. Connecticut has to do better about dealing with students and just people in general, we always seem to run to punitive repercussions rather than HELPING people and seeing what the root cause of all of this actually is. It only takes a conversation to change someone's life sometimes. Some of these students just want attention because maybe they feel they are lacking it, resources etc.

I feel very strongly as a parent that children so young should not be kicked out of school, they are there to learn and not have punitive measures. We need to find alternative ways to break through to children.

I strongly support S.B. 1095. I hope the Committee and Connecticut Lawmakers will vote in favor of this bill because suspensions and expulsions are not the answer to helping these children.

Thank you for your time everyone,
Sage Grady